

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A multicoat system, on a substrate 1 (A), comprising at least one radiation-curable coating system (F), optionally, at least one coat (E), which is pigmented and/or provided with effect substances, and which is adjacent to and under (F), said coating system (F) and optional coat (E) being a topcoat, and at least one elastic intercoat (D), which is located between the substrate and the topcoat, and has a glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ ) of  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  or less (measured in the frequency range up to 1000 Hz), wherein the substrate has an impact strength to DIN EN ISO 179/1fU at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 50% humidity of at least  $20 \text{ kJ/m}^2$ , and the ratio (V) of the intercoat thickness (ZS) to the total thickness of the intercoat and the topcoat (DL), expressed as  $V = ZS/(ZS + DL)$ , in the multicoat system, is at least 0.05 at a temperature of at least  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, additionally comprising, between (D) and (A)

- (C) at least one coat selected from the group consisting of primer, basecoat, undercoat, coat pigmented or provided with effect substances, and substrate 2, and
- (B) at least one elastic intercoat, if coat (C) is a substrate 2.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the substrates 1 and/or 2 in the coats (A) and/or (C) are selected from the group consisting of paper, plastics, and metals.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of PP (polypropylene), SAN (styrene-

acrylonitrile copolymers), PC, PMMA, PBT, PA, ASA (acrylonitrile-styrene-acrylate copolymers), ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene-copolymers) and their physical mixtures (blends).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thickness of the elastic intercoat (D) is from 0.5 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one compound in the elastic intercoat (D) is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic elastomers, polyacrylates, and poly-*iso*-butenes.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one compound in the elastic intercoat (D) is selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS), styrene-isoprene-styrene (SIS), styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene (SEBS) and styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene (SEPS) block polymers.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A substrate 3 coated with a multicoat system as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A method of producing the multicomponent system as claimed in claim 1, which comprises applying, between the substrate 1 (A) and said at least one radiation-curable coating system (F), said an elastic intercoat (D) having a glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ ) of -20°C or less.

Claims 10-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the substrates are selected from the group consisting of PP (polypropylene), SAN (styrene-acrylonitrile copolymers), PC, PMMA, PBT, PA, ASA (acrylonitrile-styrene-acrylate copolymers), ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene-copolymers) and their physical mixtures (blends).

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the thickness of the elastic intercoat (D) is from 0.5 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one compound in the elastic intercoat (D) is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic elastomers, polyacrylates, and poly-*iso*-butenes.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the substrate comprises an interior surface or an exterior surface of a structure.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The substrate 3 as claimed in claim 8, which is a building component, a vehicle component or an aircraft component.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein elastic intercoat (D) has a glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ ) of -60  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  or less (measured in the frequency range up to 1000 Hz).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein radiation-curable coating system (F) comprises at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of urethane (meth)acrylates, epoxy acrylates, polyether acrylates, and polyester acrylates.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein (V) is at least 0.3 at a temperature of -50°C.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The multicoat system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one compound in the elastic intercoat (D) is a thermoplastic elastomer, and wherein at least one compound in the at least one radiation-curable coating system (F) is a urethane (meth)acrylate.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended to avoid any misunderstanding that the recited ratio (V) is with regard to the multicoat system, not only substrate 1, as supported in the specification at page 33, lines 18-30.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-9 and 16-24 remain pending in the application.